IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

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historical@IrondaleOntario.ca

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Irondale Community Centre

Advisory Committee
of
Minden Hills Council

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Exciting News

We took our November in person flag exhibit to its next level—putting it online for those outside the county to see. Please share the link with others,
so that they can appreciate the volume of help that the Irondale area supplied in various capacities during the wars.

https://www.irondaleontario.ca

Thanks to Minden Legion Br #636 for a grant to make this happen, and a big thanks to the website capabilities of Aaron Berning in Wilberforce, the plan came together beautifully.

Our onsite exhibit—Nov 8 to 11— had many guests, though the snowy weather kept many from venturing out on the roads, preferring to stay snuggles in warm homes. Out veterans didn't have that option; they fought in all weather with little protection.

Sgt. Katherine Burton pays tribute to the individuals and then joins her uncle, Mayor Dave Burton inside the historical church to view the many artifacts loaned for the exhibit.

On the left, George Simmons speaks with guests, telling the stories behind some of the individuals on the flags

If you haven't been receiving

these newsletters on a bi-monthly basis, my apologies.
I've been going through old emails and notes made, trying to organize the clutter.
If you are made aware of someone that should be receiving and isn't—please let me know!
historical@IrondaleOntario.ca

Test Your Knowledge with Patricia's Trivia

1. In the fairy tale, whose house is Little Red Riding going to?
2. What movie won best picture at the 2023 Academy Awards?
3. What country is home to the city of Canberra?
4. What month's three birthstones are sardonyx, peridot and spinel?
5. What two prairie provinces share Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park?
6. What does the French expression *s'il vous plait* mean in English?
7. What is gelotophobia the fear of?
8. What canal in Central America links the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans?
9. What year was Alouette 1, Canada's first satellite, launched from a U.S. rocket?
10. What weapons project in the 1940s was codenamed Project Y?
11. What TV comedy starred Steve Carell as a boss name Michael Scott?
12. Who in Irondale has been known as Bat Girl?

Answers can be found elsewhere in this issue.

MILITARY SLANG PUZZLE
Enter to win!

Match the slang in the left column to the meanings on the right.

		Your Guess for Corresponding Number	
1	Tommy	Soldier	Fear
2	Windup	Fear	Milk
3	Cow	Milk	News
4	Rag Fair	Equipment Inspection	Small wound
5	Blanket drill	Nap	Equipment
6	Ace	Outstanding fighter pilot	Luxury
7	Matey	Friendly	Military Nurse
8	Kit	Equipment	An outstanding fighter pilot
9	With Jam on it	Luxury	Soldier
10	Gup	News	To argue
11	Blighty	Small Wound	Equipment Inspection
12	Bluebird	Military Nurse	Friendly
13	Chew the Rag	To Argue	Nap

Ingredients:
1 (14 oz) can of sweet condensed milk
1/3 cup butter
1/3 cup brown sugar
3 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup roughly chopped peanuts
1 - 2 sleeves of Ritz crackers

Preparation:

Prepare the Baking Sheet: Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper and lay out Ritz crackers in a single layer.

Make the Caramel-Peanut Mixture:

In a saucepan, heat the sweetened condensed milk, butter, and brown sugar over medium heat for 7-8 minutes, stirring frequently. Lower the heat, then whisk in milk, vanilla extract, and chopped peanuts. Cook for an additional 2 minutes until the mixture thickens, then remove from heat.

Assemble the Treats:

Using a cookie scoop, spoon the caramel-peanut mixture onto each Ritz cracker.

Cool and Store:

Allow the treats to cool completely, then store them in an airtight container to keep them fresh.

Editor's Note: I made these for Euchre Night in 2025. They were well received and very easy to make.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathies are with
Vera (Bill) Godfrey
on the passing of her sister, Norma Parnell
on November 15, 2025

Play Canoe Radio Bingo
proceeds support local initiatives
Tuesdays at 6pm -- 100.9 FM

A big Thank You to the Helen and Marilyn of
Daughter's Garden Inc. in Irondale,
for cleaning up the gardens at the front of the church.
They tell me they once the ground thaws in the spring —
there will be perennials planted.
Will be nice to see those beds looked after and thriving.
Thanks ladies—my thumb is not green

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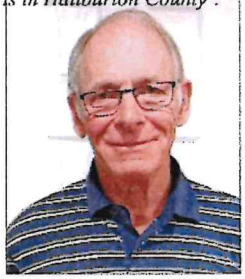
JULY SPEAKER: PAUL MORISSETTE – SPORTS IN HALIBURTON COUNTY PART 4

The HHGG held an extra meeting on Tuesday, July 22, to hear the final portion of Paul Morissette's 'History of Sports in Haliburton County'.



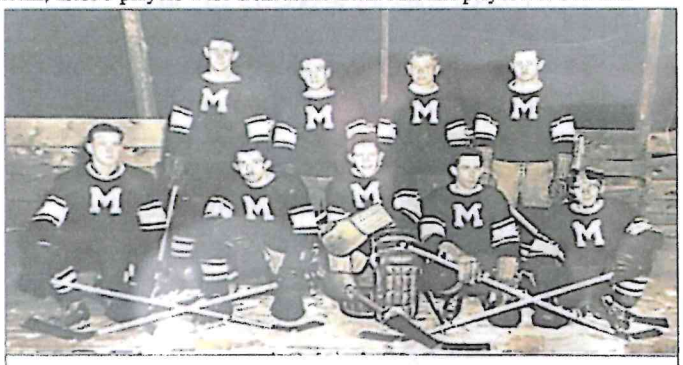
Minden had no arena in the 1930's. During the Depression, a make-work project was the construction of Highway 35. This caused animosity with Haliburton locals, as workers were brought in from outside the county. Minden was centrally located in the county, so hockey was played there, with 4 local teams.

There were 5 prominent locals who had a love of hockey who promoted the sport: **Vince Fountain, Harry Cowan, Allen Rogers, Dr. Wilfred Crowe** and **Mark Vasey**.

Vince Fountain didn't play himself, but he was passionate about hockey. He was the chief man who got junior teams (ages under 20), playing each other.

Vasey was born on a farm in Carnarvon, the eldest of 8 kids. He coached at the public school, and he also coached the younger kids. After the 1942 fire, the Minden rink was built in his backyard.

Ross Davidson was a great goalie – he played for the Haliburton Black Hawks, the Haliburton Huskies and the Lindsay Juniors, before being killed in WWII at the age of 26. He was the son of Thomas & Iva Ellen Davidson of Haliburton. Along with **Vance English** and **Glen 'Bimmie' Dart**, they were players for the Lindsay Juniors; on the 11-man Lindsay team, these 3 players were from Haliburton. Another player was **Joe Iles**.



MINDEN MONARCHS - 1947-48

Back row: Junior Windover, Fred Moore, Morris (Cooney) McKelvie, Roy Windover. **Front row:** Don Sedgwick, Allen (Bunt/Sam) Rogers, Lance Easton, Claude Brown, Max (Deac) Jackson.

MINDEN MONARCHS

Morris McKelvey	Bud Kernohan
Junior Windover	Fred Moore
Glen Vasey	Claude Brown
Ken Lewis	Lance Easton
Jim Dawson	Gary Vasey
Roy Windover	Allen Rogers
Don Sedgewick	Mark Vasey (Manager)
Max Jackson	Harry Cowan (Coach)
Johnnie Lewis (from Brechin)	Bobby Dawson (Mascot)

19-year-old **Junior Windover** was a tall, rangy defenseman who anchored Minden's defense alongside his brother **Roy Windover** and **Morris McKelvey**. A week after his 20th birthday, Junior and a few buddies were hunting at a hunt camp on Big Trout Lake near Orillia. On their return, their float plane crashed and Junior was killed. His death really shook the Minden community.

HOCKEY IN THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

Following the War, a significant number of young men settled in Wilberforce, leading to the establishment of the competitive Monmouth Town Hockey League. This league included teams from Wilberforce, Harcourt, Tory Hill and Gooderham. In 1950, with the construction of the Monmouth Community Centre, the Monmouth All Star Hockey team was formed, featuring the top players from the league. The team consisted of both seasoned veterans and emerging talent who had participated in the Little NHL during the 1940's.

WILBERFORCE ALL STARS

Blake Barnes	Moss Billings
Bryan Sedgewick	Keith Tallman
Jack Daniels	Karl Tallman
Jim Miller	Blair Hanthorn
Ralph Hunter	Mervyn McNeeley
Ross 'Buster' Anderson	Bob Finlay
Ross Agnew	Mike Zavarin
Murray Agnew	Harold 'Red' Mitchell

1953 GOODERHAM GENERALS

Blair Hanthorn	Lawrence Alsop
Elgin MacDuff	Ross Raby
Bruce Graham	Gerald Dewey
John Hunter	Marsh Dudman
Bob Madill	Basil Hunter
Ron Barr	Charlie Hadley
Ralph Barr	

MINOR HOCKEY

- Minor hockey was not overly organized into teams, age groups and leagues.
- In junior teams, players were being groomed for the big teams.
- The 1930's provide the first indication that Haliburton teams were entered into OHA leagues and championships. Minden's **Vincent Fountain** was the convenor for Group 15 which featured juvenile teams from Minden, Beaverton, Fenelon Falls, Bobcaygeon and Haliburton.
- Minden's **Claude Brown** and Haliburton's **Buck Baker** were the league's star players in the late 30's.
- In the late 30's and the 40's, Minden's **Harry Cowan** coached virtually every kid in the village. Minden would play games against Coboconk, Kinmount and Haliburton.
- It was not until after WWII that younger age groups were organized. By the 1940's kids were divided into Squirts, Peewee, Bantam, Midget and Juvenile divisions.
- Haliburton County's Little NHL was established at this time with teams forming in Minden, Haliburton, Wilberforce, West Guilford and Gooderham. Older teams played more often. It was a big deal to go out of town to play.
- By the early 1950's, the Glen Dart Tournament became the County championship.
- Minden Midgets advanced to OMHA semi-finals in the early 1950's.

EARLY SCHOOL TEAMS

Local school boards hired young men who were as passionate about hockey as their young charges. In the late 1940's, Gooderham's school board hired **Blair Hanthorn**, a renowned hockey player from Fenelon Falls, as principal of Gooderham's Continuation School. His enthusiasm laid the groundwork for a generation of competitive hockey teams in Gooderham.

Not to be outdone, Harcourt hired **Mike Zaravin**, a young, sport-loving teacher from Toronto who organized school sports in Harcourt with a focus on the school's hockey team.

MINDEN MIDGETS 1951?

Lou Hodgson	Dale Trumbull
Hugh Vasey	Donald Loucks
Cyril Watson	Stafford Yearwood
Gareth Kellett	Jim Hie
David Leigh	Lawrence Yearwood

MINDEN MIDGETS OMHA MIDGET D 1952-53

Hugh Vasey	Stafford Yearwood
T. Struthers	A. Taylor
Lawrence Yearwood	H. Taylor
H. Simms	Jim Hie
L. Hewitt	Dale Trumbull
B. Hamilton	P. Watson

Be sure to check out the Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame at https://hhshoff.ca/ or follow them on Facebook.

This article taken directly from HHGG newsletter, with permission from author Gail Leach-Wunker.

Email received a while back ...

My great great grandfather is buried in Kinmount but his post office was in Irondale. Do you know of anything that has to do with Frank Askey? Regards Dave C.

Research sent to Dave C,
Hi Dave
I am not sure exactly what it is that you are looking for regarding the Askey's. I did a little research and found the following pieces ...
http://www.bancroftthisweek.com/?p=8154
A December 1944 news piece entitled "Ontario Railway Nightmare Line" aptly describes what happened to the I.B.&O. railway and why it never reached Ottawa. In fact, builder Charles Pusey's bankroll had thinned due to high construction costs and the limited know-how disappeared at York River, about three miles short of reaching Bancroft. Pusey sold off his steel and paid off the help- but he still had the charter for a railroad to Ottawa.
The article includes an interview with Frank Askey, a Bancroft old-timer, who had worked on the I.B.&O. railway as a $1.25 a day construction hand. "We had a lot of trouble in those days. Once we really had a rush job. That was the time we were supposed to have an engine standing at Gooderham by a certain day, if Pusey was to hold onto his charter. We built two sections of tract and by playing leapfrog with those sections we managed to get an engine into Gooderham in time. The engine got there all right, but there were no tracks behind it for six miles and none in front. Pusey kept his charter."

Genealogy found ...
Frank Askey was born about 1842, Horsleydown, Southwark, Surrey, England to John and Anna Asker(y).

1851 England Census - St Olave, Southwark, Surrey, England
John is 39, Anna 30, Martha 12, Frank 10, Ellen 7, John 6, James 3, William is 1 and Alfred is a newborn.

1871 England Census - St Olave, Southwark, Surrey, England
Has siblings living together --- Frank is 30, listed as a Foreman PO telegrapher, Martha is 32, a seamstress, Ellen is 26, a seamstress , James is 23, a Fitter and Emma is 16.

Frank Askey was 35 yrs old and a painter when he married Mary Dean.
She was 21 yrs old, born in Ryegate England to George & Harriett Dean.
The marriage took place Apr 6, 1877 in Dysart, part of Peterborough County, Ontario (at that point in time)

1881 Canada Census - Somerville Twp, Victoria N. County
Frank is 39 and listed as a railway station master.
Mary is 24, Harriet M. is 6, Frank is 4, John H, 2 and Annie 7 months old.
1891 Canada Census - Somerville Twp, Victoria N. County
the family has now expanded to include Emma is 8, James is 9, Florence is 5 and Beatrice is a newborn.

In the book titled "History of Kinmount - Community on the Fringe" by Guy Scott—pg 143...The business directory for 1891 reads as follows:
Frank Askey - Station Agent
pg 221 ...
The following list of voters was taken from Moore's Directory of Ontario, 1911. The year 1911 represents the Kinmount area at its population peak.
pg 227
The Village of Kinmount, John Askey

Dan Wilson asked ..
For perspective, who were Mr. & Mrs. W.S. Hancock among the Irondale Hancocks? Great Irondale history!

Answer provided to Dan by return email — W. S. Hancock was Wilfred Stanley Hancock and Emma L. Sedgwick They were married 28 October 1908 in Gelert. Wilfred son of Samuel & Mary Jane (McCormick) Hancock. Emma was daughter of John & Charlotte (Puffer) Sedgwick.
Emma was a schoolteacher. I am sure she had to give up her position. Female teachers could not be married and still teach.

Jacqueline Proud writes ..
Just FYI - I passed your email along to an art contact who's working on a local magazine for 2026 — one section will spotlight the history of different places around Haliburton. I thought the church and all the history you've gathered would make such interesting and fun reading for anyone in the greater area.
Thanks Jacqueline for thinking of us for the fabulous opportunity.

We have been honouring our Irondale veterans for four years now with the 'Service, Courage & Sacrifice Exhibit."

This year we have them on our website—story on pg 1

I feel it is time to have all 64 of the people included in our flag installation; included in Issue 13 of the Ontario Legion's Military Service Recognition Books.

I think that if you gave your permission to have a flag done, you will also be okay with the picture and info being submitted to the Legion's books.

If for any reason you don't want to have your veteran in the Legion's next issue... contact me at historical@IrondaleOntario.ca

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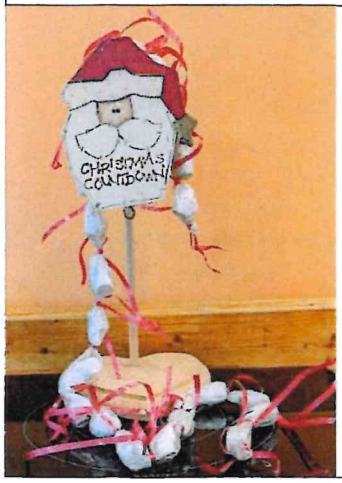
Volunteerism: The rent we pay to live in a good community



Linda Code has been offering 'easy to do' craft workshops for those that wish to join in.

The morning of November 25 found the ladies creating an advent calendar. Men are invited tho' haven't taken part yet.
See pic below on left.

Linda is taking names for those interested in attending Dec—to make the snowmen pot as pictured below in the right. Thursday, December 11, 10am start to noon. In the historic Irondale Church hall (heat will be on). Seasonal goodies will be served.

Call or Text Linda at 905-442-1794 to add your name to the list.

Rib Dinner, Sat. Nov 8, 2025

was held at the Irondale Comm. Centre.

Once again we received fabulous meat products from McFadden's Meat Market in Haliburton.

The ribs were enjoyed by close to 40 people. The conversation was lively among guests—especially the "hunters' table" as they had a successful afternoon.

Special thank you to Kurt & Linda, Glenda and Beth, Susan and Rose. These individuals did a lot of work, setting up, cooking, serving and cleaning up. Without help like this, little would get done in the village.

Helen & Marilyn of **Daughter's Garden Inc.** held Christmas Planter workshops.

These workshops ran on Nov 13, 1pm and Nov 15 at 1pm.

Participants were provided with all the materials and step by step instructions.

Everyone followed the steps to make their own planter.
We were amazed at the many different versions.
We were advised that once home, we were to water the planter and keep it watered well until it froze., this would prevent the needles from falling off the branches.
Successful event!!

Patricia's Trivia Answers — How did you do?

1) her grandmothers; 2) Everything Everyway All At Once; 3) Australia; 4) August; 5) Saskatchewan, Alberta; 6) if you please; 7) laughter, being laughed at; 8) the Panama Canal; 9) 1962; 10) the Manhattan Project; 11) The Office; 12) Barbara Gordon

Susie's Musings

When anger rises, hold your tongue. The anger will pass, but cruel words can leave life long wounds. Speak with kindness, or be silent.

Days are too busy, hours are too fast, seconds are too few, but there's always time for me to remember a friend like you.

If you stay silent about the problem to keep the peace, there is zero percent change that the problems gets fixed.

A tear is made of 1% water, 99% feelings.

Sometimes it takes a really dark storm to make you realize that no matter how difficult life is, you will always survive.

Enough
You don't have to be tidier, thinner, funnier or smarter.
You don't have to be more assertive, more ambitious, more social or more productive.
You can keep growing, but you don't have to be more of anything in order to be enough ...
You Already Are.

Good friends are like stars. You don't always see them but you know they are there.

LOVE is like the moon unless it grows, it wanes

You can judge a man by his friends.

The forest path is not long when it leads to the one you love.

How you give is more important than what you give.

Christmas in Heaven
What do they do? They come down
to earth to spend it with you.
So save them a seat,
just one empty chair.
You may not see them
but they will be there.